Examples of Business/Child Care Partnership Programs

Program	Program Description	Benefits	Costs
Champions for Children	Champions for Children is a fund managed by Child Care Resources, a Seattle-based non-profit child care resource and referral agency. Champions for Children receives financial support from The Boeing Company, Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce, the City of Seattle and King County. These partners are dedicated to improving the quality of child care in Seattle and surrounding communities Child Care Resources provides technical and financial assistance to child care providers who wish to become nationally accredited.	 Providers become accredited, which helps to ensure that high quality standards are being achieved. Due to the non-profit status of <i>Child Care Resources</i>, contributions to the fund are tax-deductible. The program has a wide-range of financial supporters. 	 Pursuing national accreditation can be a cumbersome process, which may deter some providers from participating. Due to limited resources and the lack of available grant funding, it is unlikely that a child care related non-profit organization in Santa Clara County would have the infrastructure to support a program of this magnitude. Child Care related non-profit organizations typically serve all of Santa Clara County, which dramatically increase the scope, size, and cost of this program. The financial and staff support that is provided to participating child care centers is beyond the scope of the Sunnyvale's Child Care Resources Program.
West Virginia Kids Count Fund, Partners in Early Education Program	West Virginia Kids Count Fund is a non-profit group based in Charleston, West Virginia, which helps to raise awareness about the need for high quality child care. The Fund manages the Partners in Early Education Program, by pairing local businesses with child care centers to improve the quality of child care. Participating businesses are matched with local child care centers and contribute various resources such as funding, supplies, old office furniture and technical support.	1) Participating businesses and child care centers are matched based on requested and available resources. Businesses get acquainted with children and staff at the centers and have first hand knowledge about how their contributions are improving quality.	 The focus of this program is on improving child care centers, not family child care homes, which excludes a large number of child care providers that could potentially benefit from this program. This program focuses on ongoing contributions from businesses, which provides little flexibility and may deter some businesses who want to make one-time contributions from participating.

Program	Program Description	Benefits	Costs
Early Childhood Professional Development Project	The Early Childhood Professional Development Project based in Corning, New York, is led by a task force of community members and local businesses interested in improving the quality of child care. The project focuses on supporting the professional development of child care providers, raising retention rates of child care workers, assisting providers with applying for national accreditation, and recruiting mentors to work with less experienced providers. The partners involved in the Early Childhood Professional Development Project include Corning, Inc. (a major employer in the area), a child care resource and referral agency, a community college, parents, and a local foundation. The Corning Children's Center, a child care center established by Corning Inc., oversees the collection and distribution of funds and coordinates activities of the task force.	1) The task force includes many sectors of the community vested in improving child care and is funded by a major employer and foundation	 The project is heavily reliant on one foundation for funding and will need to have more diverse funding sources for the project to continue long term. Sunnyvale's Child Care Resources Program currently provides many of the services being implemented by this project (i.e. supporting the professional development of child care providers through training and recognition and linking new providers to experienced providers). The project receives a minimum of \$250,000 per year in funding from its supporters.

Program	Program Description	Benefits	Costs
DonorsChoose	DonorsChoose is an entirely web-based non-profit organization that facilitates citizen and private sector contributions to elementary and secondary school teachers for projects that their school cannot financially support. DonorsChoose originated in New York City and was brought to the San Francisco Bay Area (serving nine counties including Santa Clara County) by a venture capitalist. At the DonorsChoose website (www.donorschoose.org), teachers can describe a student project and list the materials needed to make it possible. DonorsChoose staff verifies the teacher's identity, review the proposed project, estimate its cost and posts it to the website. Potential donors can browse the DonorsChoose website, and if they so choose, make a tax-deductible contribution to fully or partially fund a project.	 Donors have greater control over their contributions because they choose exactly how their contribution will be used. Teachers, who know their students best, are able to elaborate on how the project and resources will benefit the children. Some of the bureaucracy that teachers have to maneuver to get projects funded by a school system, foundation, etc. is eliminated. 	 Child care providers are not eligible to participate. If the City were to implement this model, it would involve at least 200 hours of staff time at a cost of approximately \$11,125.